

NEWS RELEASE

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Illinois Metros See Minimal Job Growth; Seven Metro Areas Lose Jobs

Unemployment Rates Continue Downward Trend

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	October 2015	October 2014	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.8%	5.0%	-0.2
Carbondale-Marion	6.1%	6.1%	0.0
Champaign-Urbana	5.1%	5.3%	-0.2
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.0%	6.1%	-1.1
Danville	6.9%	7.3%	-0.4
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.6%	5.8%	-0.2
Decatur	6.8%	7.2%	-0.4
Elgin	5.4%	5.7%	-0.3
Kankakee	6.4%	6.7%	-0.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.0%	5.4%	-0.4
Peoria	6.6%	6.2%	0.4
Rockford	6.8%	7.0%	-0.2
Springfield	5.1%	5.4%	-0.3
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.9%	6.3%	-0.4
Illinois Statewide	5.3%	6.0%	-0.7

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO – Unemployment rates in Illinois fell in 12 metro areas, increased in one and remained the same in one. Seven metro areas across the state saw job loss compared to a year ago, according to preliminary data released today by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Not seasonally adjusted data compares October 2015 with October 2014.

Illinois businesses lost jobs in seven metro areas including the Quad Cities (-2.1 percent, -3,900), Carbondale-Marion (-1.6 percent, -900), and Peoria (-1.0 percent, -1,800). Illinois businesses added jobs in six metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Danville (+1.7 percent, +500), Elgin (+1.6 percent, +4,200), and Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division (+1.4 percent or +49,600). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Retail Trade (nine of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (nine of 14), Transportation, Warehousing and Public Utilities (eight of 14), and Education and Health Services (eight of 14).

“We are thankful for every single job we have gained since the national recovery began in July 2009,” IDES Director Jeff Mays said. “However, at Thanksgiving 2015, too few Illinois residents are feeling this turnaround.”

The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.3 percent in October 2015 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in October and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – October 2015

Metropolitan Area	October 2015*	October 2014**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	96,200	95,500	700
Carbondale-Marion MSA	54,900	55,800	-900
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,500	110,400	1,100
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,668,400	3,618,800	49,600
Danville MSA	29,700	29,200	500
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	180,900	184,800	-3,900
Decatur MSA	51,100	51,300	-200
Elgin Metro Division	259,500	255,300	4,200
Kankakee MSA	45,600	45,600	0
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	402,800	406,500	-3,700
Peoria MSA	178,600	180,400	-1,800
Rockford MSA	151,900	152,500	-600
Springfield MSA	113,500	112,300	1,200
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	231,300	232,600	-1,300
Illinois Statewide	5,990,400	5,949,300	41,100

*Preliminary **Revised

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**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

	Oct. 2015	Oct. 2014	Over- the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA			
DeWitt County	5.1%	5.4%	-0.3
McLean County	4.8%	5.0%	-0.2
Peoria MSA			
Marshall County	6.4%	5.7%	0.7
Peoria County	7.0%	6.7%	0.3
Stark County	6.6%	6.0%	0.6
Tazewell County	6.4%	5.8%	0.6
Woodford County	5.0%	4.9%	0.1
Ottawa-Streator Area	6.4%	6.6%	-0.2
Bureau County	6.0%	6.2%	-0.2
LaSalle County	6.6%	6.8%	-0.2
Putnam County	5.8%	6.0%	-0.2
Galesburg Area	6.2%	6.2%	-0-
Knox County	6.2%	6.2%	-0-
Warren County	5.3%	5.3%	-0-
Cities			
Bloomington City	4.8%	5.1%	-0.3
Galesburg City	6.6%	6.8%	-0.2
Normal City	4.8%	5.1%	-0.3
Pekin City	7.8%	7.0%	0.8
Peoria City	7.2%	7.1%	0.1
Counties			
Fulton County	8.0%	7.1%	0.9
Henderson County	5.3%	5.2%	0.1
Henry County	6.3%	6.1%	0.2
Livingston County	5.2%	5.2%	-0-
Logan County	5.1%	5.5%	-0.4
Mason County	6.9%	7.0%	-0.1

Pontiac Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate at 4.8 percent in October 2015 was unchanged from October 2014. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment was nearly unchanged at 14,350. Manufacturing (+150) increased while Construction (-50), Trade, Transportation and Utilities (-50) and Leisure-Hospitality (-50) had declines.

Note:

Monthly 2014 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February 2015, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

Central Illinois Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 10,400 positions in October and approximately 92 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

Bloomington MSA: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined to 4.8 percent in October 2015 from 5.0 percent in October 2014. There were an estimated 4,800 unemployed people in the labor force in October 2015. The last time the October rate was equal to or lower was in 2007 when it was 3.7 percent.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+700). Job gains were reported in Retail Trade (+600), Professional and Business Services (+400), Leisure and Hospitality (+200), Education and Health Services (+100), and Wholesale Trade (+100). Government (-500), Construction (-100) and Manufacturing (-100) reported declines. All other major industry sectors were relatively stable compared to a year ago.

Peoria MSA: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.6 percent in October 2015 from 6.2 percent in October 2014. There were an estimated 12,400 unemployed people in the labor force in October 2015.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-1,800) compared to October 2014. Job gains were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (+2,000), Educational and Health Services (+1,000), and Wholesale Trade (+100). Declines were reported in Professional and Business Services (-2,200), Manufacturing (-1,600), Construction (-500), Retail Trade (-400), and Government (-200).

Ottawa-Streator Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 6.4 percent in October 2015 from 6.6 percent in October 2014. The last time the October rate was equal to or lower was in 2007 when it was 5.0 percent. Nonfarm payrolls decreased (+75) from a year ago. The largest gains occurred in Financial Activities (+125), Professional-Business Services (+75), and Leisure-Hospitality (+50). The Construction (-100) and Manufacturing (-100) sectors had the largest declines.

Galesburg Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate at 6.2 percent in October 2015 was unchanged from October 2014. Nonfarm payroll employment was (-150) lower than last year. Education and Health Services (+50) and Leisure and Hospitality (+25) added jobs. Losses were reported in Other Services (-75), Information (-50), Finance (-50), Manufacturing (-25), and Construction (-25).